Indians in Iraq to fight for Baghdad

902. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a report appearing in the Hindu of January 16, 1991 to the effect that some two lakh Indains in Iraq were going to fight for Baghdad, against the Allied forces;

(b) whether those Indians have sought the permission of Government to fight for that country; and

(c) if so, what is Government's response and reaction thereto?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) 524 such requests have been received from the All India Indo-Iraq Friendship and Cultural Association, Moradabad (U.P.) However, it is not Government of India's policy to permit its nationals to go abroad and fight for other countries.

Views of U.S. Ambassador to Pakistan on India's nuclear capability

903. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:
SHRI MAHENDRA PRASAD:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Gotvernment's attention has been drawn to the statement of the US Ambassador to Pakistan, Mr. Robert Oakley, as quoted by Radio Pakistan on December 22, 1990, and reported in the Hindu of January 6, 1991 to the effect that 'if India had acquired nuclear capability then Pakistan also had the right to do so for its own defence';

(b) if so, whether Government are aware that Bush administration has been keen on resuming military and economic aid to Pakistan despite the US banning such aid to countries having nuclear weapons and such nuclear capabilities; and

(c) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto by way of impressing upon the US to refrain from extending such aid to Pakistan in view of Pakistan's hostile postures?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The US Government has proposed a reduction in the quantum of US aid to Pakistan but the matter is yet to be considered by the US Congress. Such aid can only take place when President Bush provides certification under the Pressler Amendment that Pakistan does not possess a nuclear device.

Yemen's Peace Plan to avert the Gulf War

904. SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Yemen had proposed a Six Point Peace Plan for averting the Gulf War;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal; and

(c) what was Government's reaction thereto, by way of seizing the opportunity as a member of the United Nations Security Council to avert the war or to bring about a cease-fire after the war started and to arrive at a negotiated settlement?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) Details of Yemen's six point peace plan are as given below:

(i) A resolution by the U.N. Security Council to stop all military action immediately;